

PRISONER'S CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT (Rev. 05/2015)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE _____ DISTRICT OF TEXAS

DIVISION

FILED

APR -1 2022

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
BY [Signature]
DEPUTY

John Sparks #02372631
Plaintiff's Name and ID Number

Holliday Unit 295 IH45N Huntsville, Tx. 77320
Place of Confinement

CASE NO. **1:22 CV 00313 RP**
(Clerk will assign the number)

v.

Warden Brian Smith Holliday Unit 295 IH45N Huntsville, Tx. 77320
Defendant's Name and Address

Asst. Warden Tommy Mitchell Holliday Unit 295 IH45N
Huntsville, Tx. 77320
Defendant's Name and Address

Governor Greg Abbott P.O. Box 12428 Austin, Tx 78711-2428
Defendant's Name and Address
(DO NOT USE "ET AL.")

INSTRUCTIONS - READ CAREFULLY

NOTICE:

Your complaint is subject to dismissal unless it conforms to these instructions and this form.

1. To start an action you must file an original and one copy of your complaint with the court. You should keep a copy of the complaint for your own records.
2. Your complaint must be legibly handwritten, in ink, or typewritten. You, the plaintiff, must sign and declare under penalty of perjury that the facts are correct. If you need additional space, **DO NOT USE THE REVERSE SIDE OR BACKSIDE OF ANY PAGE.** ATTACH AN ADDITIONAL BLANK PAGE AND WRITE ON IT.
3. You must file a separate complaint for each claim you have unless the various claims are all related to the same incident or issue or are all against the same defendant, Rule 18, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Make a short and plain statement of your claim, Rule 8, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
4. When these forms are completed, mail the original and one copy to the clerk of the United States district court for the appropriate district of Texas in the division where one or more named defendants are located, or where the incident giving rise to your claim for relief occurred. If you are confined in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Correctional Institutions Division (TDCJ-CID), the list labeled as "VENUE LIST" is posted in your unit law library. It is a list of the Texas prison units indicating the appropriate district court, the division and an address list of the divisional clerks.

FILING FEE AND *IN FORMA PAUPERIS* (IFP)

1. In order for your complaint to be filed, it must be accompanied by the statutory filing fee of \$350.00 plus an administrative fee of \$50.00 for a total fee of **\$400.00**.
2. If you do not have the necessary funds to pay the fee in full at this time, you may request permission to proceed *in forma pauperis*. In this event you must complete the application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, setting forth information to establish your inability to prepay the fees and costs or give security therefor. You must also include a current six-month history of your inmate trust account. If you are an inmate in TDCJ-CID, you can acquire the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and the certificate of inmate trust account, also known as *in forma pauperis* data sheet, from the law library at you prison unit.
3. The Prison Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (PLRA) provides "... if a prisoner brings a civil action or files an appeal *in forma pauperis*, the prisoner shall be required to pay the full amount of a filing fee." See 28 U.S.C. § 1915. Thus, the court is required to assess and, when funds exist, collect, the entire filing fee or a initial partial filing fee and monthly installments until the entire amount of the filing fee has been paid by the prisoner. If you submit the application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, the court will apply 28 U.S.C. § 1915 and, if appropriate, assess and collect the entire filing fee or an initial partial filing fee, then monthly installments from you inmate trust account, until the entire \$350.00 statutory filing fee has been paid. (The \$50.00 administrative fee does not apply to cases proceeding *in forma pauperis*.)
4. If you intend to seek *in forma pauperis* status, do not send your complaint without an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and the certificate of inmate trust account. Complete all essential paperwork before submitting it to the court.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

It is your responsibility to inform the court of any change of address and its effective date. Such notice should be marked "**NOTICE TO THE COURT OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS**" and shall not include any motion for any other relief. Failure to file a NOTICE OF THE COURT OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS may result in the dismissal of your complaint pursuant to Rule 41(b), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

I. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS:

- A. Have you filed *any* other lawsuit in state or federal court relating to your imprisonment? ___ YES ☒ NO
- B. If your answer to "A" is "yes", describe each lawsuit in the space below. (If there is more than one lawsuit, describe the additional lawsuits on another piece of paper, giving the same information.)
 1. Approximate date of filing lawsuit: _____
 2. Parties to previous lawsuit:

Plaintiff(s) _____

Defendant(s) _____
 3. Court: (If federal, name the district; if state, name the county.) _____
 4. Cause number: _____
 5. Name of judge to whom case was assigned: _____
 6. Disposition: (Was the case dismissed, appealed, still pending?) _____
 7. Approximate date of disposition: _____

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II. PLACE OF PRESENT CONFINEMENT: Holliday Unit 295 IH45N. Huntsville, Tx. 77320

III. EXHAUSTION OF GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES:

Have you exhausted all steps of the institutional grievance procedure? YES ☒ NO

Attach a copy of your final step of the grievance procedure with the response supplied by the institution.

IV. PARTIES TO THIS SUIT:

A. Name and address of plaintiff: John Sparks #2372631
Holliday Unit 295 IH45N.
Huntsville, TX. 77320

B. Full name of each defendant, his official position, his place of employment, and his full mailing address.

Defendant #1: Warden Brian Smith, Holliday Unit. 295 IH45N. Huntsville, TX. 77320

Briefly describe the act(s) or omission(s) of this defendant which you claimed harmed you.

Has threatened me with acts of violence and retaliation for trying to expose the illegal acts done by him and his staff, including continuing harassment and intimidation by chain of command.

Defendant #2: Assistant Warden Tammy Mitchell, Holliday Unit 295 IH45N.
Huntsville, TX. 77320

Briefly describe the acts(s) or omission(s) of this defendant which you claimed harmed you.

Has harassed and intimidated me with threats of violence under the instruction of defendant #1.

Defendant #3: Governor Greg Abbott OFFICE of the Governor P.O. Box. 12428
Austin, TX 78711-2428

Briefly describe the acts(s) or omission(s) of this defendant which you claimed harmed you.

Wrongful imprisonment, wrongful conviction, Negligence, Violation of Civil Rights

Defendant #4: STATE OF TEXAS. AUSTIN, TX.

Briefly describe the act(s) or omission(s) of this defendant which you claimed harmed you.

Wrongful imprisonment, wrongful conviction, Negligence, Violation of Civil Rights

Defendant #5: TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE - REGION I
1225 Avenue G, Huntsville, TX. 77340

Briefly describe the act(s) or omission(s) of this defendant which you claimed harmed you.

Knowing and Allowing the mistreatment of inmates and failing to keep its employees within the guidelines allowed by the law.

V. STATEMENT OF CLAIM:

State here in a short and plain statement the facts of your case, that is, what happened, where did it happen, when did it happen, and who was involved. Describe how each defendant is involved. You need not give any legal arguments or cite any cases or statutes. If you intend to allege a number of related claims, number and set forth each claim in a separate paragraph. Attach extra pages if necessary, but remember the complaint must be stated briefly and concisely. IF YOU VIOLATE THIS RULE, THE COURT MAY STRIKE YOUR COMPLAINT.

It is a daily occurrence that Warden Brian Smith instructs Asst. Warden Tammy Mitchell and other staff to threaten my well being and safety while I'm incarcerated. He encourages mistreatment of his inmates through methods of intimidation, racial profiling, Slader, and physical violence. This is retaliation for my attempts to inform the Governor's Office of my treatment during my wrongful imprisonment which is subject to appeal. This has been brought to the attention of Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice whom choose to turn a blind eye to the violation of basic civil rights that take place at the Holliday Unit on a daily basis.

VI. RELIEF:

State briefly exactly what you want the court to do for you. Make no legal arguments. Cite no cases or statutes.

To hold those responsible for their actions, To provide me a sanction as I pursue legal action, To grant me financial compensation for the injustice I have suffered.

VII. GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

A. State, in complete form, all names you have ever used or been known by including any and all aliases.

John Sparks

B. List all TDCJ-CID identification numbers you have ever been assigned and all other state or federal prison or FBI numbers ever assigned to you.

TDCJ# 2372631, TDCJ# 502567

VIII. SANCTIONS:

A. Have you been sanctioned by any court as a result of any lawsuit you have filed? YES ☐ NO ☒

B. If your answer is "yes," give the following information for every lawsuit in which sanctions were imposed. (If more than one, use another piece of paper and answer the same questions.)

1. Court that imposed sanctions (if federal, give the district and division): _____

2. Case number: _____

3. Approximate date sanctions were imposed: _____


4. Have the sanctions been lifted or otherwise satisfied? YES ☐ NO ☒

C. Has any court ever warned or notified you that sanctions could be imposed? _____ YES ☒ NO

D. If your answer is "yes," give the following information for every lawsuit in which a warning was issued. (If more than one, use another piece of paper and answer the same questions.)

1. Court that issued warning (if federal, give the district and division): _____
2. Case number: _____
3. Approximate date warning was issued: _____

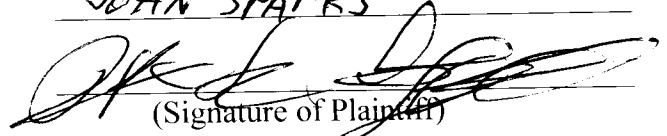
Executed on: 3/24/22
DATE

JOHN SPARKS

(Signature of Plaintiff)

PLAINTIFF'S DECLARATIONS

1. I declare under penalty of perjury all facts presented in this complaint and attachments thereto are true and correct.
2. I understand, if I am released or transferred, it is my responsibility to keep the court informed of my current mailing address and failure to do so may result in the dismissal of this lawsuit.
3. I understand I must exhaust all available administrative remedies prior to filing this lawsuit.
4. I understand I am prohibited from bringing an *in forma pauperis* lawsuit if I have brought three or more civil actions or appeals (from a judgment in a civil action) in a court of the United States while incarcerated or detained in any facility, which lawsuits were dismissed on the ground they were frivolous, malicious, or failed to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, unless I am under imminent danger of serious physical injury.
5. I understand even if I am allowed to proceed without prepayment of costs, I am responsible for the entire filing fee and costs assessed by the court, which shall be deducted in accordance with the law from my inmate trust account by my custodian until the filing fee is paid.

Signed this 24th day of March, 20 22.
(Day) (month) (year)

JOHN SPARKS

(Signature of Plaintiff)

WARNING: Plaintiff is advised any false or deliberately misleading information provided in response to the above questions may result in the imposition of sanctions. The sanctions the court may impose include, but are not limited to, monetary sanctions and the dismissal of this action with prejudice.